

STANDARD FORM NO. 64  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Engineering Staff, OC

SPM 9-0606  
DATE: 26 January 1959

FROM : Chief, Special Programs Staff, OC

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SUBJECT: Quotation, 10 Watt, Fuel Burning Thermoelectric Generator,

25X1

1. The attached technical quotation submitted by  for a 10 watt, fuel burning thermoelectric generator,  has been thoroughly examined. The technical quotation, plus modifications discussed with the engineering monitor, satisfactorily meets our operational requirements.

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2. It is recommended that Allotment Number 9-7900-10-652 be utilized to complete the necessary procurement arrangements.

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Attachment  
Technical Quotation

Distribution  
Orig. & 1 - Addressee

**CONFIDENTIAL**

December 12, 1958

The United States Government  
Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: Quotation, 10 Watt, Fuel Burning Thermoelectric Generator

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Gentlemen:

We submit the following quotation for a 10 Watt thermoelectric fuel burning generation in response to your recent request.

Outline of Technical Approach:

It appears quite practical to proceed immediately with the design and construction of a fuel burning 10 Watt, 15 volt generator meeting the specifications of your request. Our activities in thermoelectric generator development and construction have established that known thermoelectric materials and design approaches can be utilized in straightforward manner to utility of a delivered unit.

We have conducted successful development activity not only in thermopile construction, but also in liquid fuel burner engineering. Straightforward engineering application of the resultant known principles can produce a generator matching your first step requirements without further invention or original development.

For this reason, we believe it most expeditious and economical to propose design and construction of a generator meeting your initial specifications under a fixed price purchase order.

After delivery of a unit meeting your initial specifications, an accurate conclusion can be reached as to the development required to produce a generator satisfactory in all respects for your intended usage.

In our opinion, the above method of procedure will permit the most rapid and efficient utilization of our development and know-how background.

The United States Government  
Washington 25, D. C.

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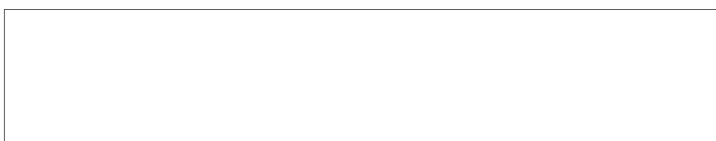
December 12, 1958

Our current development activities include wide variation in thermopile assembly and heat source configurations. It would be of mutual advantage during this activity to think in terms of your end goal while producing a first-step model for your test purposes.

The above comments do not preclude our ability to proceed with a tight development program immediately, should your requirements be firm enough to warrant such an approach. Be assured that our interest in satisfying your need in the most satisfactory manner is of sincere concern to us.

The following Enclosures 1, 2 and 3 describe our proposal in detail.

Thank you.



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/rm  
Enclosures 1, 2, 3  
Sketch

## Enclosure I

OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATIONS, THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR

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Power Output, Rated - - - - -	10 Watts
Voltage Output, Rated Load - - - - -	15 volts D. C. Nominal
Number Semiconductor Couples - - - - -	125
Overall Efficiency - - - - -	Approximately 4 %
Heat Source - - - - -	Ceramic "S" mantle burner operating on leaded gasoline supplied from pressure tank requiring periodic manual pumping, no visible light to show.
Cooling - - - - -	Case finned for convective air cooling.
Fuel - - - - -	Leaded or white gasoline.
Fuel Consumption Rate - - - - -	0.56 pint per 10 hours.
Weight - - - - -	15 lbs. maximum.
Shock and Vibration - - - - -	Suitable for normal handling and transport.
Storage - - - - -	-60°C to +60°C
Operation - - - - -	100 hours operation without burner maintenance.
Burner Maintenance - - - - -	Simple cleaning procedure and replacement.
Control - - - - -	Manual fuel rate adjustment, indicating volt-ammeter.
Accessories - - - - -	5' output cable with polarity marked battery clips.
Price - - - - -	\$ 46,000 Delivered
Delivery - - - - -	Four months approximately from date of order.

Enclosure 2

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED TEN WATT, GASOLINE BURNING GENERATOR

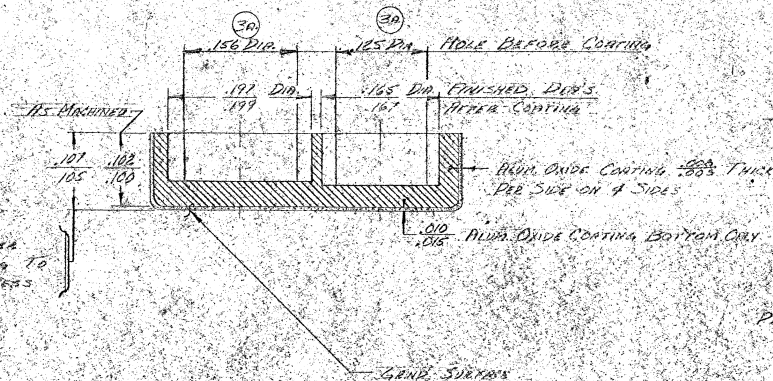
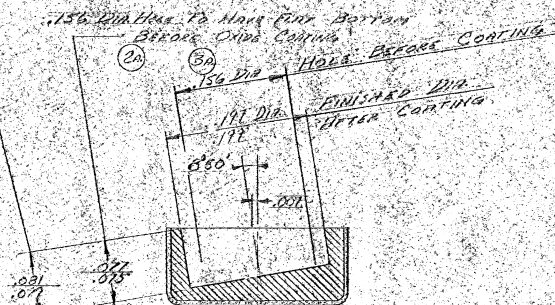
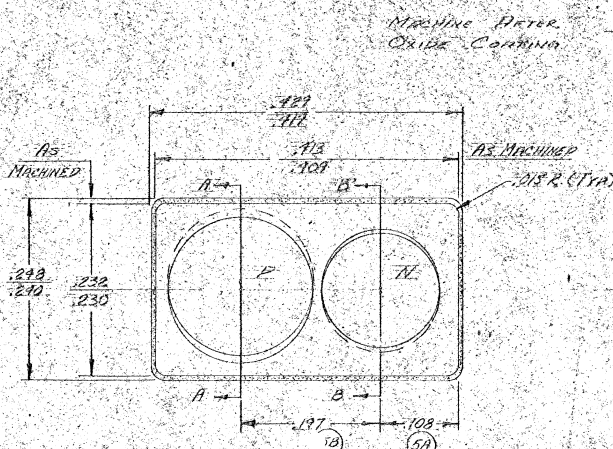
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The enclosed sketches C-58-134 and C-58-135 show a thermoelectric generator unit fitted to a proven configuration gasoline burner and also to a dead-end, counterflow burner. This is intended to show two possible arrangements and not necessarily a final design.

Generator output control is achieved by controlling the combustion ratio with a manual fuel adjustment. A small volt-ammeter is to be included to permit proper adjustment.

The burner requires periodic manual pumping to provide pressurized fuel flow to the ceramic burner unit. The fuel is vaporized in the generator tube and there causes air aspiration through the air intake tube. Pre-heating of fuel and air will take place in the tubing within the generator enclosure. It is expected that combustion can be varied from maximum down to approximately 60 per cent of maximum without becoming unstable.

Two design approaches have been considered, primarily from the standpoint of burner configuration. An approach now in development can be described as a "dead-end, counterflow" system. This approach would be incorporated into the generator assembly, provided current proving shows advantage and satisfactory life.



PART NO. 3A-7

MAT'L - C.B. STEEL A.I.S.I. 1020  
MACHINE - ALL MILL SCALE REMOVED  
GRIND SURFACE

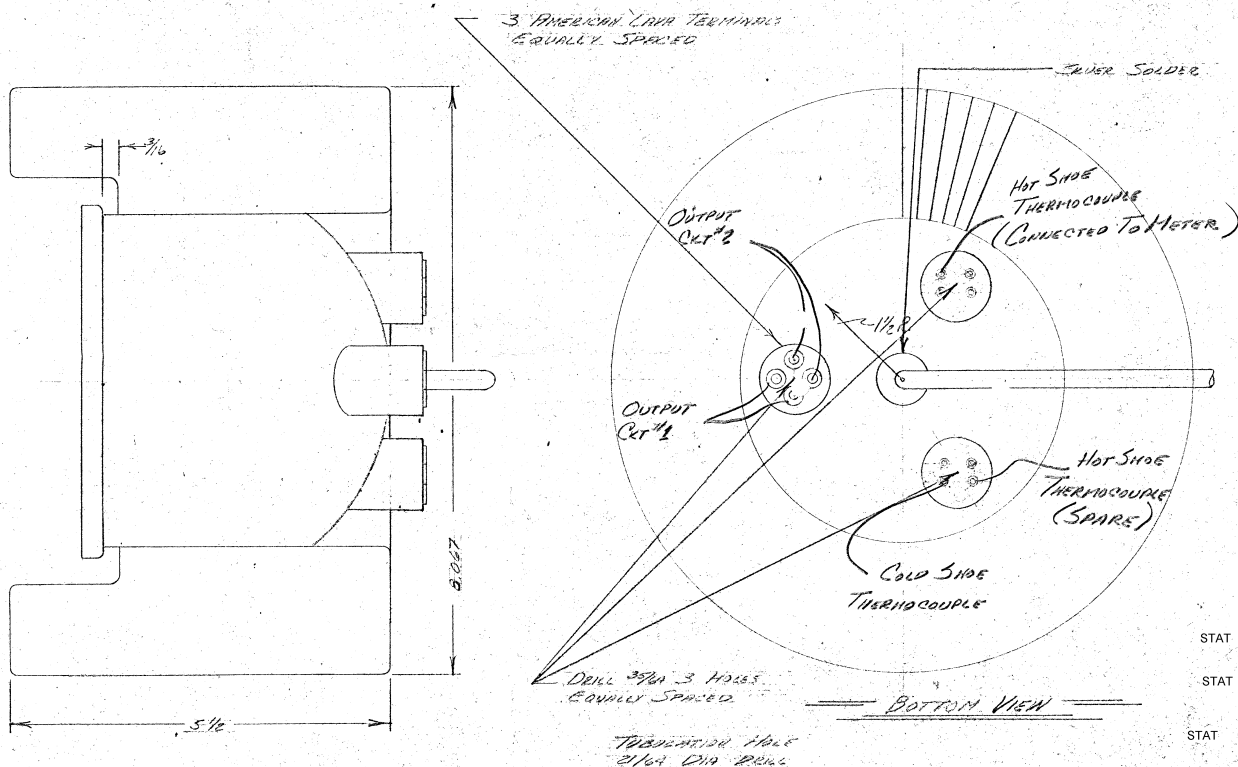
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EXCEPT AS NOTED, FINISH:  
PHOS. DIM. ± .005  
ANGULAR DIM. ± .005

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97	10-13-54	REV. CH.
98	10-13-54	REV. CH.
99	10-13-54	REV. CH.
100	10-13-54	REV. CH.

SILVER SOLDER TERMINALS, TUBULATION & TUBULATION  
FITTING USING CONECTOR 1801 OR EQUIVALENT  
PART AND INSIDE OF TUBULATION TO BE FREE OF  
FLUX RESIDUES AND OXIDE FILMS.

COMPLETED PART TO HAVE A MAX. OF 3.0 DISTANCE  
OF DEFLECTION AS DETERMINED ON HELIUM  
PRESS SPECTROMETER DETECTOR.

SOFT SOLDER TERMINAL CHAMFERED  
TO LOWER SHELL.



NOTE:  
80 PMS EQUALLY SPACED  
USE HUBBARD 560°F WELD SOLDER  
USE 3 AMERICAN LAMP TERMINALS

NOTE:  
USE 1 ALLOY OUTPUT TERMINAL  
DISK DENY # 10-15-39-27  
USE 2 ALLOY THERMOCOUPLE TERMINAL  
DISK DENY # 10-15-39-28

USED ON	1	8-25-59	
EXCEPT AS NOTED, FINISH	ISSUE DATE AND CHANGE RECORD		
EXCEPT AS NOTED, TOLERANCES	REV. CH.		
FRAG. DIM. ±	WELD-GSTG DIA. ±	TITLE	
DEC. DIM. ±	ANGULAR DIM. ±	COVER SHIELD SUB ASSEMBLY	
		30-2	
		C	TE 3A 27

## Enclosure 3

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DESIGN CALCULATION OUTLINE, GENERATOR

Temperature Hot Junction - - - - - 1100 F.

Temperature Cold Junction - - - - - 200 F.

Material Efficiency - - - - - 8.16%

 $\rho_N$  (Ave. resistivity of "N" element) - - - - -  $1220 \mu\Omega\text{-in.}$  $\rho_P$  (Ave. resistivity of "P" element) - - - - -  $1610 \mu\Omega\text{-in.}$  $V_{p,n}$  (Seebeck EMF of one couple) - - - - - 243 mv. @ 900 F. T $\frac{A_n}{A_p} = .851$  = Ratio of area of "N" element to area of "P" element.Number of couples =  $\frac{15 \text{ volts} \times 2}{.243 \text{ volts}} \approx 125$  couplesLoad Resistance =  $\frac{(15)^2}{10} = 22.5 \Omega$  Internal Resistance =  $\frac{22.5}{1.05} = 21.4 \Omega$ Assume 1" length, then Dia of "P" element = .151 in.  
Dia of "N" element = .140 in.

## Estimated overall efficiency:

Fuel burning efficiency (estimate) - - - - - 60 per cent  
(including exhaust losses)

Thermoelectric materials efficiency - - - - - 8.16 per cent

Heat insulation efficiency - - - - - 80 per cent

Net overall efficiency =  $.60 \times .0816 \times .80 = 3.92$  per centFuel Required:

Heat value of regular leaded gasoline = 21,050 Btu/#.

10 Watts = 34.1 Btu/Hour output

$$\frac{34.1}{21,050 \times .0392} = .041 \text{ \#/Hour}$$